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REMARKS

Claims 17-19 and 22 are allowed and claim 10 is stated to be allowable if placed in independent form including the limitations of its base claim and intervening claims..

Claims 1-3, 5, 10, 11, 13 and 20-22 have been amended to correct formality errors and to more clearly define the invention.

Claim 10 is amended to be in independent form including the limitations of its base claim and intervening claim and is consequently deemed allowable.

Support for the amendment indicating the "resultant expression" calculates a result value and further defining "data items" is found in the existing claims and in the Application description in connection with Figure 3 and elsewhere.

I. Objection to Specification.

The specification is objected to because it contains embedded hyperlinks. The specification is amended to remove the hyperlinks. Consequently this objection is no longer deemed to apply.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 1-9, 11-16, 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by EP Patent EP 0667585 A1 – Kiyoshi Ono et al. These claims, as amended, are deemed to be patentable for the reasons given below.

Amended claim 1 recites a system "supporting use of user customizable expressions by a plurality of different executable applications" and including "a database for associating a particular application of said plurality of different executable applications with a particular data item of a plurality of selectable data items available for incorporation in a user entered expression and for excluding use by said particular application of data items of said plurality of selectable data items unassociated with said particular application; an interface processor for receiving a user entered expression and for incorporating said particular data item in said user entered expression to provide a resultant expression for use by said

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particular application; and an expression processor for operating on data from said particular application with said resultant expression to provide a calculated result value". These features are not shown (or suggested) in Ono.

The system associates "a particular application" of a "plurality of different executable applications with a particular data item of a plurality of selectable data items" and excludes "use by said particular application" of data items "unassociated with said particular application". The system also "incorporates said particular data item" in "a resultant expression" that operates on "data from said particular application" to provide a "calculated result value". These features enable "restriction and control of the data that is exposed to a user for entry in an expression and supports association of descriptive information with items of data exposed to users. In addition multiple user selectable template expressions are provided for user alteration advantageously facilitating the user interface process". The system also enables use of a "customizable expression" to "allow users to define formulas for **calculating** rates of reimbursement" in medical claim insurance reimbursement, for example (Application page 3 lines 32-35 and 22-26). This capability is of substantial advantage in hospital administration and improves hospital operation.

In contrast the system of Ono employs a user interface enabling creation of a logical **search** expression (a "predicate") for use in locating files or objects for example (Ono column 2 lines 47-51 and column 4 lines 5-17). The Ono system does NOT incorporate a "particular data item" in "a resultant expression" that operates on data from said particular application" to provide a "**calculated** result value". The Ono search expression does NOT provide a "calculated result value" but search results identifying particular files, for example (Ono column 2 lines 45-51). Further, a predicate (a logical search expression) is applied in Ono by using a GUI and "dropping an icon representing the predicate on a folder (or icon) representing a database, provided that the folder object on which it is dropped is the search range. Furthermore, a predicate can be applied to a database by dropping an icon representing the database on a predicate icon (or folder)" (Ono column 5 lines 46-53, column 17 line 36 to column 19 line 47). Consequently, there is no predetermined association of object or database searched with a predicate (logical search term) since a user is able to select objects searched by drag and drop selection from any displayed objects. Consequently, the Ono system does NOT associate "a particular application" of a "plurality of different executable applications with a particular data item of a plurality of selectable data items". Similarly, the Ono system does NOT associate "a particular application" of a "plurality of different executable applications with a

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particular data item of a plurality of selectable data items" involving **"excluding** use by said **particular** application" of data items **"unassociated** with said particular application". In the Ono system there is no predetermined association restricting the objects or databases that are searched using a predicate (logical search expression) because a user is able to select objects searched by drag and drop selection from any displayed objects.

In addition, the claim 1 system associates "a particular application" with "a particular data item" and "incorporates said particular data item" in "a resultant expression" that operates on data **from said particular application** to provide a "calculated result value". Thereby, a logical "expression" operates on "data from said particular application" associated with a "particular data item" (e.g. a patient identifier) employed in the logical "expression" to calculate a "result value". This combination of association of a particular element in an expression with an application and use of data provided by **this particular application** to calculate a result value is NOT shown or suggested in Ono. In the claimed system, logical expressions used in computation are linked and associated with applications providing data for use in expression calculation, however the Ono system is **fundamentally different** in that it concerns search in which such associations are not present. This fundamental difference and absence of any other reason, motivation or recognition of the specific problem addressed by the claimed arrangement, means that it would not be obvious to modify the Ono system to incorporate the claimed features. Consequently, withdrawal of the rejection of amended claim 1 under 35 USC 102(b) is respectfully requested.

Amended dependent claim 2 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 2 is also considered to be patentable because Ono does not show (or suggest) a system in which the "expression processor resolves said resultant expression to provide a calculated result value comprising at least one of, (a) a financial reimbursement sum determined per a health care policy terms and (b) a computed value". As previously explained the Ono search expressions do NOT provide a "calculated result value" but search results identifying particular files, for example (Ono column 2 lines 45-51).

Amended dependent claim 3 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 3 is also considered to be patentable because Ono does not show (or suggest) a system in which the "resultant expression is a logical expression and said data items comprise at least one of, (a) a patient identifier, (b) a

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medical condition identifier, (c) a patient address and (d) patient medical record information". These items are used in the "resultant expression" to calculate a "result value", such as an insurance reimbursement value for a specific patient and medical condition, for example. The Ono search expression based system does not contemplate providing a "calculated result value" at all.

Dependent claim 4 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 4 is also considered to be patentable because Ono does not show (or suggest) a system involving the claim 4 combination of features involving a "resultant expression" comprising "an algebraic expression including one or more operators" and the "database associates said particular application with algebraic expression operators including at least two of (a) a multiplication operator, (b) a division operator, (c) an addition operator and (d) a subtraction operator".

Amended dependent claim 5 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 5 is also considered to be patentable because Ono does not show (or suggest) a system in which the "resultant expression is a logical expression and said particular data item comprises at least one of, (i) a patient identifier and (ii) a medical condition identifier" and the "database associates said particular data item with at least one of, (a) an acceptable parameter, (b) an acceptable value, (c) an acceptable range of values and (d) an acceptable range of parameters". Ono does not contemplate such a feature combination.

Dependent claim 6 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 6 is also considered to be patentable because it includes features enabling allowance of claims 17 and 22. Specifically, neither Ono (nor the other cited references) show (or suggest) a system in which an "interface processor allocates a **version identifier** to said resultant expression and said expression processor selects a **latest version** of said resultant expression based on **version identifier**".

Dependent claim 7 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 7 is also considered to be patentable because Ono does not show (or suggest) the feature combination in which the "expression processor updates said database to associate said resultant expression with said particular application". As previously explained, in the Ono system there is no predetermined association linking an "expression with said particular application" restricting objects

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or databases searched using a predicate (logical search expression) because a user is able to select objects searched by drag and drop selection from any displayed objects.

Dependent claim 8 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1 and for reasons given in connection with claim 1.

Dependent claim 9 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 9 is also considered to be patentable because Ono does not show (or suggest) the feature combination in including "a compiler for compiling said particular application together with said resultant expression to provide a particular executable application". Contrary to the Rejection statement On column 10 and 11 does not mention a compiler or suggest the feature combination of claim 9.

Amended dependent claim 11 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 11 is also considered to be patentable because Ono does not show (or suggest) a system in which a "database associates a particular procedure of said particular application with said particular data item and **excludes** use by said particular procedure of another data item of said plurality of selectable **data items unassociated** with said **particular procedure**, and said resultant expression is used by said particular procedure". Contrary to the Rejection statement Ono column 18 and 19 does not mention or suggest excluding "use by said particular procedure of another data item of said plurality of selectable data items unassociated with said particular procedure".

Dependent claim 12 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 12 is also considered to be patentable because Ono does not show (or suggest) a system in which "said database associates a plurality of candidate template expressions with said particular application and said interface processor receives user entered information for selecting one of said template expressions". Contrary to the Rejection statement Ono column 1 and 2 does not mention or suggest "candidate template expressions" associated with a "particular application" enabling user selection of "one of said template expressions".

Dependent claim 14 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 14 is also considered to be patentable because Ono does not show (or suggest) a system in which "said database associates said **procedure of said particular application** with a plurality of resultant **expressions**". Contrary to the Rejection statement Ono column 1 and 2 does not mention or suggest

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association of a "procedure of said particular application" with a "plurality of resultant expressions". In the Ono system there is no predetermined association linking an "expression" with executable "procedures" or "applications". Ono does not restrict objects or databases searched using a predicate (logical search expression) because a user is able to select objects searched by drag and drop selection from any displayed objects.

Dependent claim 15 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1. Claim 15 is also considered to be patentable because Ono does not show (or suggest) the feature combination of claim 15 in which "said database associates a plurality of procedures of said particular application with a plurality of expressions".

Dependent claim 16 is considered to be patentable based on its dependence on claim 1.

Amended independent claims 13, 20 and 21 are considered to be patentable for reasons given in connection with previous claims.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the Application is in condition for allowance, and favorable reconsideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

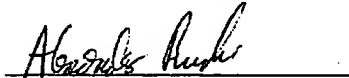
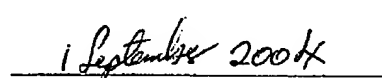
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